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**Tuesday, February 14, 2012**

# THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

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*"Love distills desire upon the eyes,  
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into the heart."*

*Euripides*

## Another fantastically fabulous Oranjestad Children's Parade

The charm and delight of Carnival in all its glory is very much exemplified by the children's parades, when a new generation demonstrates their enthusiasm for continuing with this exciting island tradition. "Fantastical" is a most appropriate adjective for these events, as the group leaders, with a mind towards youthful interests, often choose fairy tale and fun themes, which encourage the youngsters and further delight the spectators.

However, it was "Grupo Nos Futuro," with their stunning treatment of island landmarks and the concept of appreciating all that is Aruba,



group, which claimed it in Oranjestad, though Nos Futuro again won the Culture award. TOB again won the prize for the most participants and Most Luxurious Roadpiece with their Thai Warriors theme.

Because of their outstanding presentation, Nos Futuro was named Group of the Year, with Champagne Group and TOB coming in second and third.

For the youngsters, it really isn't about the prizes; it is the fun of dressing up and living a fantasy day with thousands appreciating how very adorable they can be. Best of all, this is an island that appreciates the effort, understanding how tiring it is, so they all have



off from school the next day! What could be better?

See more photos on pg 4  
by Rosalie Klein



who were the big winners in the Oranjestad Grand Children's Parade on Sunday, February 12, and the week before during the San Nicolas Children's Parade.

Oranjestad's was expanded with one more group participating and quite a few more large floats, which were not completed in time for the earlier parade, so it was quite an exciting event this past Sunday.

Nos Futuro won 1st place for Body Piece, Road Piece and Section and 3rd place for float; 1st place float was the Grasshopper Queen from Champagne Group. Though Nos Futuro won Most Creative in San Nicolas, it was Reina Debbi Doo Pre-School, the new

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## Carnival at Colegio Arubano dedicated to birdlife!



On Friday, February 10th, at Plaza Pa Jos the teachers of the Cyclo Basico of Colegio Arubano had organized a special carnival celebration for their pupils. At this time of year many schools have their Queen Elections, but this election was special. The participants were encouraged to use recyclable materials and to create a "birdlife fantasy". Nature conservation awareness at its best!

The queens' outfits were stunning and there were flamingoes, hummingbirds, canaries, macaws, prikichis, a lovebird and even a swan.

There were dresses made of plastic bags, of bottle caps, plastic cups and old newspapers. The creativity was amazing! One candidate had even decorated her dress with bird seeds! The participants truly outdid themselves!

The speeches of the candidates about birdlife conservation, about having respect for nature and caring for our environment were tremendous. They reached out to their peers to create awareness of the beauty of our nature and how important it is to cherish what we have.

Much to the surprise of

everybody the Minister for Economic Affairs, Social Affairs and Culture, Mrs. Michelle Hooijboer-Winklaar came to show her appreciation and support for this tremendous initiative.

The members of the jury, all former students of Colegio Arubano, had a hard time selecting the winners. At the end the crown for queen of CB 1, Princesita, went to Thiani den Dunnen, who also won best speech and best costume. For CB 2 the crown for Princesita Youth went to Kristin Romero. Analyn Croes won best costume and the honor for the best speech went to Janirey Severino. The prizes for this event were sponsored by Aruba Birdlife Conservation who wants to congratulate all the participants for their enormous effort and their beautiful interpretations of local and international birds. Masha pabien, young ladies!

Photo shows Minister of Economic Affairs, Social Affairs and Culture, Mrs. Michelle Hooijboer-Winklaar next to Hans van Tuijl, director of Colegio Arubano, surrounded by some of the candidates.

## Government signs plans for multifunctional buildings

ORANJESTAD -- This past week, the government of Aruba signed an agreement with SOGA, ICS Advisors from Holland for the realization of the project for five multifunctional buildings for the government to be constructed in various barrios on the island. This will be one of the 64 projects in the BOAruba integral plan.

During the signing, the Prime Minister remarked that he was very pleased that ICS embraced the challenge to work with Aruba on this project. He informed that ICS has designed and guided more than 100 similar projects in Holland, which today are very functional. During one of their visits to Holland, Eman and Sievinger were able to witness how these centers function in Holland.

The intention is to renovate and expand the auxiliary offices of the government in view of the growing demand for services by the public in the barrios. The government is intent on creating more social cohesion in the barrios and expanding the services will definitely contribute to this goal, according to the Prime Minister.

They intend to expand the existing government building in San Nicolaas. At the back of this building there is ample space for expansion into the Sint Maartenstraat. Also, the former DOOV building will be renovated. This may become an area for both more services as well as a recreation area. In Savaneta, however, they are not sure that there is sufficient land space at the existing building for expansion or to construct a new building. They are still looking for an adequate spot in Santa Cruz. In Paradera there is adequate space at the actual Hulp Bestuurskantoor. While in Noord there is plenty of space where the old police station was lo-

cated. They can use that area along with the two DAS homes to create an attractive block at the entrance of the Noord crossing.

The government's intention is not to simply offer the usual services of the auxiliary offices, but to evaluate each barrio to determine what additional services must be offered at each location and building. They have in mind, for example, the need for an internet cafe, a small library, etc. Even some private companies have expressed an interest in offering certain services in these locales. All in all, this must be a modernization and improvement in the service that the government provides the people of Aruba, according to the Prime Minister.

By June this year they will present a dossier of the requirements for the MFA buildings. The next step will be to prepare the design of the blue prints, public tender and the actual construction and implementation of the project.

The MFA's are part of the master plan for the renovation of Aruba. At the signing, the following persons were present: for ICS Advisors, drs. Roosmarijn Peet; for SOGA John Hodgson (President); Sheila van Veen (member of the Board of SOGA); Frensdel Giel (AIB/SOGA) and Jasmin Simon (AIB/SOGA).



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## Special police rules aplicable during the 2012 Carnival Parades

ORANJESTAD -- The Aruba Police Force's primary objective is to maintain public order and to ensure the safety of everyone at all times. In this vein, the Police Force has announced the particular rules for the maintenance of public order during this year's Carnival parades.

Every police has been instructed to issue but One Warning. Anyone who refuses to comply with a police warning, may be arrested immediately in conformity with ordinance 190 of our Penal Code, and may be incarcerated for up to three months or pay a fine of maximum Afls. 5000.

Articel 35 of the General Police Ordinance states: "anyone participating or present at a parade or manifestation on a public road, who receives an order from the police with respect to public order to leave the area, must comply with the police order immediately and proceed in the direction that the officer indicated." While Ordinance 191 clearly states that should someone causing turbulence is ordered by the police to leave the area refuses to obey

said order can be sent to jail for two weeks or pay a fine of Afls.120.

Ordinance 192 of our Penal Code also states that: anyone who is a part of a gathering of persons, who refuses to obey police orders to leave the area, after three warnings, the police will consider him/her guilty and a participant in the gathering, and may be arrested and incarcerated for maximum three months, or pay a fine of Afls.600.

### GENERAL Rules:

1. The Police will apply the rule of zero tolerance very strictly. In compliance with article 147 of the Penal Code they will not allow for public fights and anyone guilty of this will be arrested immediately.

2. They will not tolerate any lack of respect for an officer of the Police Force, and anyone guilty of insulting an officer will be arrested immediately if the officer is offended by a gesture or words of disrespect.

3. This year the police will issue but **ONE** warning. The moment the police arrests someone, it is preferable

to not resist this to avoid any further unpleasant experience. Also, those around the arrested person should remain calm to avoid any further action by the police force.

### SPECIFIC Rules:

1. **The closing of roads.**

The moment the police closes off a road together with DOW in conjunction with the Carnival celebrations, it will be strictly prohibited for anyone to remove barricades to allow them to pass through the closed area with a vehicle. Anyone guilty of same will be arrested on the spot.

2. **Baricades along the Carnival route.**

- Everyone who is not participating in the parade must remain behind the barricades along the route. It will not be permitted to:

- a. Sit on the barricades;
- b. Stand in front of nor sit under the barricade ( neither children)
- c. Remove a barricade and set it down on the ground.



3. **Places where there are no barricades along the Carnival route.**

Here the rule is that at the moment the parade has begun, none will be allowed to stand or dance on the road, nor during the moment that the parade is passing. Here again the police will issue one warning and if the warning is not heeded he/she may be arrested immediately. It is not allowed to place any object on the road where the parade is passing.

4. **Passing with motorbikes or bicycles in the parade while barricades are being put in place to close off the route from traffic.**

It is not permitted for motorbikes or bicycles to be on the carnival route when a route has been closed for traffic. All bikers and cyclists are required to come early before the route is cordoned off to avoid being sent back. If they refuse to comply with the police order their bike or cycle may be confiscated by the police.

5. **Music in front of pickups in the parade.**

It is orohibited to have speakers affixed in front of trucks driving through the parade. This measure has been taken to protect the participants. Last year an accident occurred which could have been devastating. However, because of the rapid response of a police officer the worst was prevented. Those dancing in front of a truck must maintain a distance of at least 5 meters between the truck and the participant at all times.

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## Another fantastically fabulous Oranjestad Children's Parade



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**Dinner**

Monday - Sunday

6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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## IDEA is Aruba's newest idea on starting a business



ORANJESTAD -- Last Wednesday the government inaugurated the Small Business Center under the caption of IDEA (Initiative for the Development of Aruba Businesses). Iniciativa pa Desaroyo di Empresa Arubano is a center of information and extensive guidance for persons interested in starting their own business, as well as for existing business owners.

The primary objective of IDEA is to contribute to the formation of sustainable development in the area of business and the expansion of productivity and efficiency to ensure a strong and healthy labor market.

According to the Minister of Economic Affairs, "we need to diversify our industries

so we can face the challenges and compete with the rest of the world..." This new department was set up with the help of the team of the Minister of Economic Affairs, and Commerce and Industry.

The inauguration of IDEA took place in a distinctly pleasant atmosphere in the company of many invited guests and the personnel of DEZHI.

IDEA is inviting everyone to come by and visit them during office hours from 7:45 - 11:30 am and 1:15 to 4:00 pm at the Department of Economic Affairs, Commerce and Industry.

They stand ready to offer assistance with all the necessary information relative to business undertakings.

## Special police rules aplicable during the 2012 Carnival Parades

*Continued from page 3*

### 6. Dancing/sitting on the roof of a truck /trailer during the parade.

It is not allowed for anyone to dance or sit on the roof of a truck /trailer that is moving in the parade. This is because there are dangerous electric lines overhead. Only those appointed by SAC to raise these lines at the opportune moments will be allowed on the roof of a vehicle.

### 7. Control of chauffeur under the influence of alcohol on the parade route.

Before and during the parade they will have every chauffeur of a truck or auto driving in the parade to control their alcohol intake with the use of the police devise to measure this.

Any chauffeur who refuses to comply with the required alcohol test or proves to be intoxicated will be arrested and will have to suffer the consequences.

### 8. Pedestrians walking through the participants of the Carnival and other groups, and standing on the road side during the parade

### and at the end of the parade.

No one, who is not a participant, may walk in the carnival route; neither are they allowed to join in if they arrived late to join their group, or to join in at the end to jump up again and walk alongside the group or jump up in an other group. These participants will be ordered to stand behind the barricades and if they refuse to obey the order they will be arrested....in conformity with article 35 of the General Police Ordinance.

### 9. The behavior of Press members/taking pictures by the public.

This year they will not permit the press to disturb the flow of the carnival parade by breaking in to do interviews, crowning participants or for taking pictures or filming. This measure has been duly discussed in a meeting with the press and all communication media. They will neither permit other individuals to take pictures during the parade, and disturb the flow of the parade. These persons will be warned but once. Failure to comply

will result in getting arrested.

### 10. Immoral behavior.

They will not allow, in conformity with our laws, no one to behave immorally on our public roads, or in the carnival route, or elsewhere. Everyone is requested to behave decently, and to not allow alcohol to dominate their conduct. Articles 244 and 245 of our Penal Code covers this type of infraction. Also articles 49 and 50 of our General Police ordinance covers to this issue.

### Finally:

The Aruba Police Force is here to maintain public order and to guarantee the safety of everyone, participant, general public, members of SAC, volunteers, etc. The police is not here to spoil or hinder the carnival spirit. The police wishes that everything go smoothly without incident. They make a special appeal to everyone not to abuse of alcohol, not to drive if they are drinking and to drive responsibly. Everyone residing on the island must adhere to Aruba's rules and the order of the police. All our rules are for everyone living here.

## Garden Café at The Mill Resort celebrates

### Valentine's Day Special Dinner February 14, 2012, from 5:00pm - 11:00pm

Romantic Welcome drink: Pinot di Pinot, Italian "Vino Spumante"

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**MAIN COURSE**  
Shrimps in Love Pasta  
6 Jumbo Shrimps sautéed in Olive Oil, fresh garlic, tomato chunks and fresh spinach, With vodka cream sauce tossed on Fettuccine Pasta

**OR**  
Stuffed with love Cornish Hen  
Cornish Hen is stuffed with seasoned mixture of cooked wild rice and mushrooms  
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**MENU**

**OR**  
The best of both sides, Tenderloin Steak and Jumbo Shrimps, Served with garlic cream sauce, served with fresh vegetables and Baked Potatoes.

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Chocolate Cake with strawberry sauce

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For reservation please call : 526.7714, or 526 7700, ext. 1414

## Department for Labor Progress issues reminder

ORANJESTAD -- As of January 1st 2012, the new department of labor, the Department for Labor Progress, introduced the community to their new management policies. Job Center, which is an integral part of the new DPL, also communicated their changes and requirements that employers need to take into account when listing a job vacancy.

All the procedures for job placement are tied to the DPL,

which means that an employer must go through all the departments of the DPL before an advice regarding a permit petition can be obtained. If one or other requirement of the DPL is not met, the process stops until after the requirement is met.

It is important that every employer know these requirements before proceeding. For a clear explanation and listing of all requirements, visit their website at [www.dpl.aw](http://www.dpl.aw).

One of the important changes listed is that an employer must publish 2 advertisements in our local newspapers under the caption of "Looking For." This must be done before going to DPL to register the vacancy. The two newspaper advertisements must be placed with a lapse of

one week between each. These ads must be of at least 2 columns x 10cm in size. The ads must also refer potential candidates to consult DPL, for an even better control.

To ensure that the ads are as understandable as possible, DPL has created samples of how the ads must appear. These samples are available at the front desk of the DPL.

Because this requirement is new and many clients have not taken note of this before, DPL will accept until February 15, ads which do not include the information about going to DPL. After February 15, however, they will not accept any document until clients comply with every last requirement as stipulated in their management policy.

## Happy Valentine's Day



From The Morning News

## International News

# British police defend raids on Murdoch's 'Sun'

LONDON (AFP) - London police on Monday defended a string of arrests at Rupert Murdoch's British tabloid The Sun, which has accused the force of carrying out a "witch hunt" against its journalists.

The arrest of five staff at the weekend for allegedly bribing officials has plunged Britain's biggest-selling newspaper into crisis, with reports that a related phone hacking scandal is set to spread to the United States.

The London Metropolitan Police said the "seriousness of the allegations" meant the resources it is ploughing into its inquiries into bribery, phone hacking and computer hacking by journalists were not "disproportionate to the enormous task in hand."

Sun associate editor Trevor Kavanagh penned a stinging attack in the daily on Monday, accusing British authorities of trying to destroy it and its sister publications The Times and The Sunday Times.

"The Sun is not a 'swamp' that needs draining. Nor are those other great News International titles, The Times and The Sunday Times," Kavanagh wrote.

News International is the British newspaper subsidiary of News Corporation, the US-based media empire of which Murdoch is founder and chairman.

Kavanagh wrote that the probe was the reason that Britain now lags in 28th place, behind former communist states Poland, Estonia and Slovakia, in a world press freedom survey by Reporters Without Borders.

He later told the BBC there were "elements in some political parties" who wanted The Sun to shut like the News of the World, its Sunday sister paper which Murdoch closed in July amid a scandal over phone hacking.

"There are people who will

stop at nothing to destroy News International," he said.

A judicial inquiry set up by Prime Minister David Cameron last year completed its first set of hearings on the ethics of the press last week.

Later sessions will deal with collusion between journalists and police, and between journalists and politicians.

Twenty-one people have now been arrested in an inquiry into alleged corrupt payments made by journalists to police officers and other public officials in exchange for information.

They include an army officer, a defence ministry official and policemen, who were arrested on Saturday at the same time as the five senior Sun journalists.

The scandal claimed the jobs of the head of Scotland Yard and a deputy after allegations that the force failed to investigate hacking properly.

Kavanagh admitted that some Sun employees were angry at News Corp. because its Management and Standards Committee, set up after the hacking scandal, had given police the information that led to the latest arrests.

His comments come as the lawyer for several victims in the phone hacking scandal was reportedly due to bring the first case against News Corp. on the other side of the Atlantic.

Mark Lewis was due to meet lawyers in the United States about launching legal action there, the Independent newspaper reported, citing sources close to Lewis's legal team.

Several British newspapers have also reported that News Corp. faces investigation by US authorities under legislation prohibiting corrupt payments to foreign officials.

The Sun sells just over 2.5 million copies a day.



Valentine's Day

Tuesday Feb. 14th

Bottle of Champagne per couple

Lobster Bisque

(Creamy lobster soup served with a dash of cognac)

Escargot (in garlic herb butter)

Tropical Salad (Mixed salad topped with local fruits and homemade Vinaigrette)

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(Half Lobster with Shrimp)

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Peach Melba or Crepe filled with Dulce de Leche ice cream

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For reservations call 5864046



## Ambassadors to complain over Dutch right-wing website



Geert Wilders

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Ambassadors from 10 eastern European states are to send a protest letter to the Dutch parliament over the website of a far-right party, a Polish embassy spokesman said Monday.

Dutch Premier Mark Rutte however declined to join a chorus of condemnation of the Dutch Freedom Party (PVV) - a parliamentary ally of his ruling coalition -- saying he would not comment on what he considered party politics.

The letter, signed by ambassadors including from Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Romania, will "express concern" over the website, where readers can lodge complaints against eastern European migrant workers.

"The Freedom Party, whose anti-Islamist leader Geert Wilders was acquitted of hate speech last year, launched the site titled 'Report Middle and Eastern Europeans' last week.

"Are you being bugged by middle and eastern European immigrants? Have you lost your job to a Pole, Bulgarian, Romanian or other eastern European? Then we would like to hear from you," says the website, which also flashes Dutch news reports about rising crime blamed on eastern European migrant workers.

Respondents can tick a "yes" or a "no" when asked whether they have experienced "nuisances" such as loud noise, parking, drunkenness, squalor or the loss of jobs to migrant workers.

Wolosz said the website was of "great concern" to the Polish government which was "trying to come up with a sensible reaction."

There are some 90,000 registered Polish citizens in The Netherlands, but the unofficial figure is believed to be around 200,000, he said.

Since the PVV site went live last Wednesday, it has drawn a spate of criticism including from the European Commission, which said Friday that it "completely went against the principles" of freedom and the free movement of people in Europe.

Dutch left-wing parties and Rutte's own coalition partner the Christian Democratic Action have also pressed him to condemn the site.

Rutte, whose ruling coalition in the 150-seat lower house is dependent on support from the PVV's 24 lawmakers, has remained silent on the issue.

"The website is not of the Dutch government, but of a political party," he told journalists while on a visit to the southern city of Biezenmortel. "It's not up to me to react to a website by a specific political party."

Wilders himself was indifferent Monday to the planned letter. "It's a waste of time," the Dutch news agency ANP quoted him as saying.

The website says the input it gathers will be collated and presented to Dutch Social Affairs Minister Henk Kamp.



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## International News

### Asbestos brings down the 'Swiss Bill Gates'

GENEVA (AFP) - Swiss billionaire Stephan Schmidheiny, sentenced in absentia to 16 years on Monday by an Italian court in a landmark asbestos trial, is a self-styled philanthropist and champion of sustainable development.

His conviction for causing an environmental disaster was not only ironic but also marked a dramatic fall from grace for the man once hailed as the "Swiss Bill Gates."

The descendant of a Swiss industrialist dynasty, Schmidheiny was a young law graduate when in 1976 he took over the reins of the family business called Eternit specialising in building materials -- among them asbestos-reinforced cement.

By the mid-1980s he had diversified into other ventures, investing in forestry firm Grupo Nueva and other multinationals.

Schmidheiny was notably credited with helping revive the Swiss watch industry with a joint venture to assume control of ASUAG-SSIH, which later became Swatch Group.

His business acumen saw him elected to the board of directors of some of Switzerland's household names, among them the Union Bank of Switzerland (later UBS) and food giant Nestle.

In the 1990s he turned his attention to charity and to the environment, and was even appointed advisor to the secretary general of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development ahead of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

He went on to establish the Avina foundation promoting social and ecological sustainability, followed several years later by a sister foundation in Latin America.

In 2009, Forbes magazine

titled an article on Schmidheiny "The Bill Gates of Switzerland," a reference to his membership of an elite club of donors, including Gates and Warren Buffet, who have given away \$1 billion or more.

Last year the publication estimated Schmidheiny's wealth at \$2.9 billion. He began retir-

ing from his business activities in 2001 however and now lives in Costa Rica, according to Swiss news agency ATS.

Schmidheiny's co-defendant, wealthy Belgian baron Jean-Louis Marie Ghislain de Cartier de Marchienne, has kept a much lower profile throughout his 90 years.

### Release of radical cleric from British jail 'imminent'

LONDON (AFP) - A radical cleric once described as Osama bin Laden's right-hand man in Europe was to be released "imminently" from prison in Britain, reports said Monday.

Abu Qatada, who is fighting extradition to Jordan, will be released from Long Lartin high-security prison in Worcestershire, central England, and will have to obey a 22-hour-a-day curfew at his home in London.

Ahead of his release, the Home Office, or interior ministry, said it would "exhaust all avenues" to ensure his extradition to Jordan, where he was convicted in his absence of involvement in terror attacks in 1998.

Qatada, 51, also featured in hate sermons found on videos in the flat of one of the September 11 bombers.

But the European Court of Human Rights has ruled that Britain cannot deport the Jordanian to his homeland because evidence used against him in any trial there may have been obtained through torture.

A spokeswoman for the Home Office told AFP:

"Everyone is united in wanting this man deported. 'This government will exhaust all avenues open to get Qatada on a plane. If we do so, we will continue to negotiate with the Jordanians to see what assurances we can be given about the evidence used against Qatada in their court.'"

A junior Home Office minister, James Brokenshire, is travelling to Jordan this week after Prime Minister David Cameron spoke last week with King Abdullah II about finding an "effective solution" to the case.

Once released, Qatada will only be allowed outside his home for two one-hour periods a day, will not be able to visit a mosque, and is banned from using the telephone and the Internet.

He must also wear an electronic tag and non-family visitors to his home must be vetted beforehand by the security services.

The cleric, also known as Omar Othman, arrived in Britain in 1993 claiming asylum and has been fighting attempts to extradite him for more than six years, most of which he has spent in jail.

### Santorum ahead of Romney in Michigan: polls

CHICAGO (AFP) - Conservative darling Rick Santorum has pulled ahead of presumptive Republican frontrunner Mitt Romney in the key battleground state of Michigan, according to two polls released Monday.

The Santorum surge is the latest surprise in the topsy-turvy race to win the Republican party's nomination to take on President Barack Obama in November.

Romney, whose father was once the governor of Michigan, had been expected to coast to an easy victory in the midwestern state and held a 15 point lead there in polls last week.

Santorum is now out front at 39 percent to 24 percent for Romney, 12 for libertarian Ron Paul and 11 percent for Newt Gingrich in a survey by Public Policy Polling.

An American Research Group survey gave Santorum a narrower lead of 33 percent with Romney at 27 percent, Gingrich at 21 percent and Paul at 12 percent of likely voters in the February 28 primary.

The sharp reversal comes after the former US senator from Pennsylvania dented Romney's aura of inevitability with surprise -- but largely symbolic -- wins in Minnesota, Colorado and Missouri last week.

Those low-turnout nominating events -- like one Romney won in Maine Saturday -- are non-binding, which leaves

Romney with a solid lead in actual pledged delegates to the party's nominating convention in August.

But the wins highlighted the conservative base's uneasiness with the former governor of Massachusetts and provided a huge boost to Santorum's flagging campaign.

Santorum's rise in Michigan was attributed to a "stellar" favorability rating of 67 percent and Republican voters "increasingly souring on Gingrich," Public Policy Polling said.

But while Gingrich's favorability has dropped to 38 percent -- while 47 percent of respondents have a negative opinion of the former House speaker -- his continued presence in the race is a big boost to Romney.

Some 54 percent of Gingrich supporters said they would go to Santorum if he dropped out, compared to only 21 percent for Romney and 14 percent for Paul.

That would expand Santorum's lead to 48 percent while Romney would win 27 percent and Paul would get 13 percent.

The PPP survey of 404 Republican primary voters between February 10th and 12th had a margin of error of 4.9 percent.

The American Research Group survey of 600 likely Republican primary voters on February 11 and 12 had a margin of error of four percentage points.

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## Health & Living

# Botox developer rues missing out on billions



(AFP) - Botox developer Alan Scott says he rues the day he handed over rights to the best-selling wrinkle-smoothing drug to a US company for just \$4.5 million, saying he might have become a billionaire.

Botox has become a frontline weapon in cosmetic medicine for erasing wrinkles -- while therapeutic applications of the drug are being used to help a wide variety of disorders from swallowing problems to muscle spasms.

"If I knew (how big it would become), I would have never given it to the drug company Allergan in 1991," Dr Alan Scott told the Times of

India in an interview published on Monday.

"At present Botox is being used for over 100 disorders besides aesthetic applications," Scott said in New Delhi where he was en route to a conference in southern India.

The San Francisco ophthalmologist said he got around \$4.5 million for handing over the rights to the drug to the California-based company Allergan which "was then a satisfactory deal."

"But if I had held on to Botox, maybe I could have made a billion dollars a year now," Scott said.

Botox, which makes mus-

cles relax, is a purified form of a nerve poison produced by a bacteria that causes a disease that paralyzes muscles and can be fatal.

Botox was first approved in 1989 to treat two eye muscle disorders -- uncontrollable blinking and misaligned eyes.

"Initially when I developed it, I knew it could do wonders for neurological disorders. However, I had absolutely no idea it could work so well as a cosmetic agent," said Scott, who initially called the drug Oculinum.

The big cosmetic breakthrough came when Canadian ophthalmologist Dr. Jean Caruthers noticed her patients were starting to lose their frown lines and published a study in 1992.

A decade later Botox was approved as a frown fixer by the US Food and Drug Administration and now it is used in 80 countries.

Does Scott worry about any side-effects from the widespread use of Botox?

"It is not clear what will happen after decades of use. Maybe the facial muscles will weaken and sag. But we know that it works in reducing facial wrinkles," he said.

"Most women don't care what will happen years later. They just want the wrinkles to disappear now.

# Asbestos: miracle material turned health nightmare

ROME (AFP) - Once billed as a miraculous material, asbestos has turned into a nightmare for countries that used it for decades, with more workers across the world falling ill because of its cancer-causing properties.

Here are some facts about the material:

Why was asbestos popular and where was it used?

Asbestos was popular because of its resistance to heat, fire, and chemical attacks as well as extraordinary tensile strength.

As a result, it was used for insulation in buildings, as well as in numerous products such as fire blankets, brake linings, gaskets and water supply lines.

The building and heavy industries were the biggest consumers of asbestos.

And workers most exposed were therefore shipbuilders, sailors, railworkers, dock workers, miners, car mechanics, plumbers, electricians and carpenters.

There are no natural or artificial materials that have the same qualities as asbestos.

At the peak of its usage in the 1970s, some five million tonnes of asbestos were being generated annually, according to news website Swissinfo.

Why is asbestos a significant health risk?

Asbestos is a group of fibrous minerals which are often incorporated in other material

like cement. But when the main material disintegrates, the fibres are released and can be inhaled.

According to a 2010 WHO report, about 125 million workers across the world were exposed to asbestos at the work place and more than 107,000 die every year from asbestos-linked diseases.

The harmful effects of inhaling the fibres have been well documented since the beginning of the last century and its carcinogenic characteristics apparent since the 1950s.

All forms of asbestos are carcinogenic, and can cause cancers of the lung, larynx and ovary.

Exposure to asbestos fibres can also cause non-cancerous diseases such as asbestosis -- fibrosis of the lungs, and pleural plaques.

Who uses asbestos today?

Asbestos was banned in all of the European Union in 2005, although several countries had already outlawed it in the 1990s.

But despite its noxious properties, it continues to be used in several countries.

According to data from a US geological studies institute, some 2 million tonnes were used in 2007 across the world.

China is the main consumer with 30 percent, India 15 percent, Russia 13 percent, Kazakhstan and Brazil with 5 percent.



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## Sci-Tech

# Watchdog group begins China Apple inspections



**A Chinese worker is seen walking through the dormitory area of a Foxconn factory in, southern China's**

(AFP) - Apple, following reports of harsh working conditions, said the Fair Labor Association began inspections Monday at a Foxconn plant in China that makes products for the California gadget-maker.

"We believe that workers everywhere have the right to a safe and fair work environment, which is why we've asked the FLA to independently assess the performance of our largest suppliers," Apple chief executive Tim Cook said.

Apple agreed last month to allow inspections by the independent labor watchdog association following reports that employees were overworked and underpaid at Foxconn factories in China.

The Taiwan-owned Foxconn is the largest manufacturer of Apple products.

Apple said the first inspections began Monday morning at a facility in Shenzhen known as Foxconn City. They were carried out by a team of labor experts led by FLA president Aurret van Heerden, Apple said.

Apple said the FLA will interview thousands of employees about working and living conditions including health and safety, compensation, working hours and communication with

management."

The Cupertino, California-based Apple said its suppliers have pledged "full cooperation with the FLA, offering unrestricted access to their operations."

Apple said the FLA's findings and recommendations will be posted on its website, [fairlabor.org](http://fairlabor.org), in early March.

"When completed, the FLA's assessment will cover facilities where more than 90 percent of Apple products are assembled," Apple said.

The New York Times reported last month that workers assembling iPhones, iPads and other devices at Foxconn facilities in China "often labor in harsh conditions" and work "excessive overtime."

According to the newspaper, two explosions at iPad factories last year killed four people and injured 77.

The recent reports of harsh working conditions in China have done little to dent Apple sales and shares of the company surged past \$500 for the first time on Wall Street on Monday.

Shares of Apple have risen steadily over the past few years on the release of a string of hit products starting with the iPod in 2001, followed by the iPhone in 2007 and the iPad in 2010.

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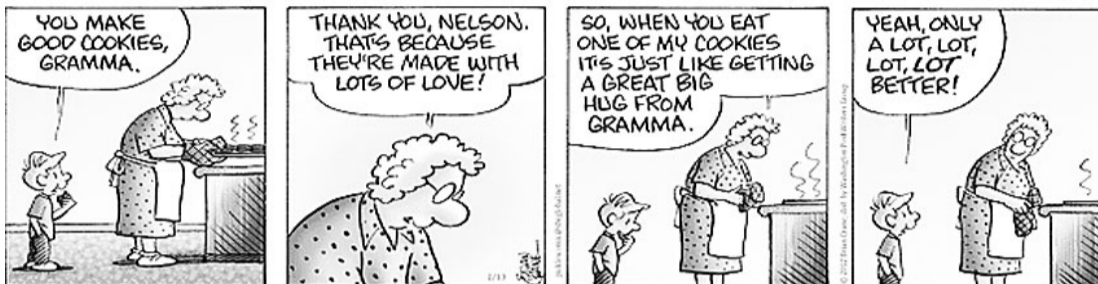
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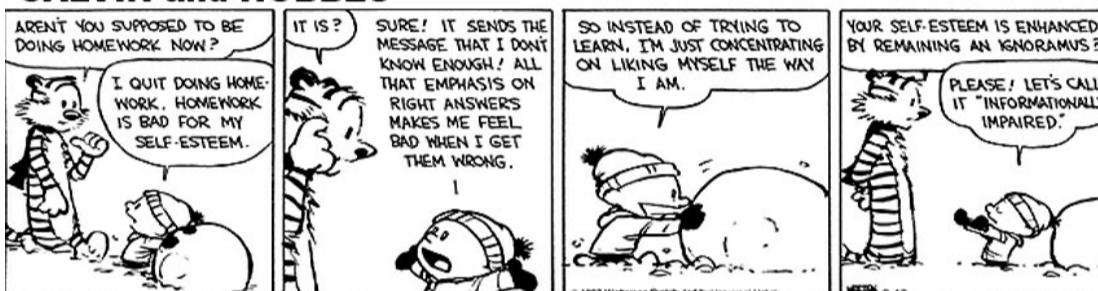
## PICKLES



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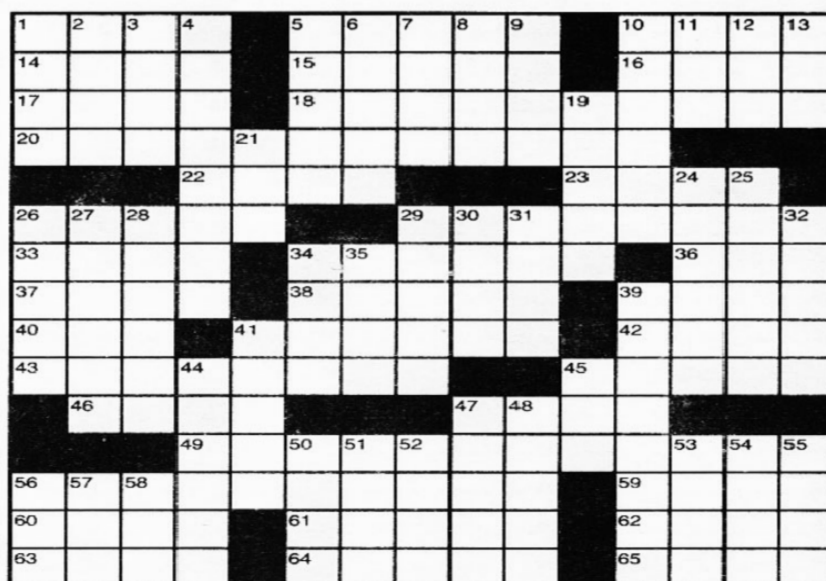
## GOING WITHOUT

## ACROSS

1. Apparel
5. Water conduits
10. Aldrich Ames, e.g.
14. One of three baseball brothers
15. Aluminum name
16. Pitcher Hershisier
17. Author Caleb
18. End-of-season events
20. Start of a quip
22. Spinach's nutritional payoff
23. Bambi's cousin
26. Second part of the quip
29. Third part of the quip
33. Sevilla lady
34. NYC down-and-out hangout
36. Barracks VIP
37. Worldwide: abbr.
38. Certain acid
39. Straight arrow
40. Scottish exclamation
41. Viewpoints
42. Steakhouse specification
43. Fourth part of the quip
45. Fifth part of the quip
46. Vowel-packed Melville title
47. Beans favored by Hannibal Lecter
49. End of the quip
56. Candidate's concern
59. Archaic oath
60. Lugosi or Karolyi

## DOWN

61. Enter a computer password
62. Chevy model
63. Before black or leg
64. Puts an end to
65. Anastasio of Phish
10. Genghis Khan, e.g.
11. Small whale
12. Sheryl of "Twin Peaks"
13. Raised trains
19. "The Last Man"
21. Prior, to Keats
24. Dwarf tree
25. Hollywood status symbols
26. Fool
27. Big shot
28. "O Canada," e.g.
29. Former Knicks center
30. Let out
31. Amor
32. Frequencies
34. Java Sea jewel
35. Muscat's land
39. War toys
41. Sprout
44. Alley howler
45. Virginia creeper
47. Photog. concern
48. Sounds from the congregation
50. Musical syllables
51. Equine gait
52. Shakespear-ean role
53. Marty's "Young Frankenstein" role
54. Church section
55. Allied invasion date
56. Retrogress
57. Humorist Rosten
58. "Turn to Stone" gp.



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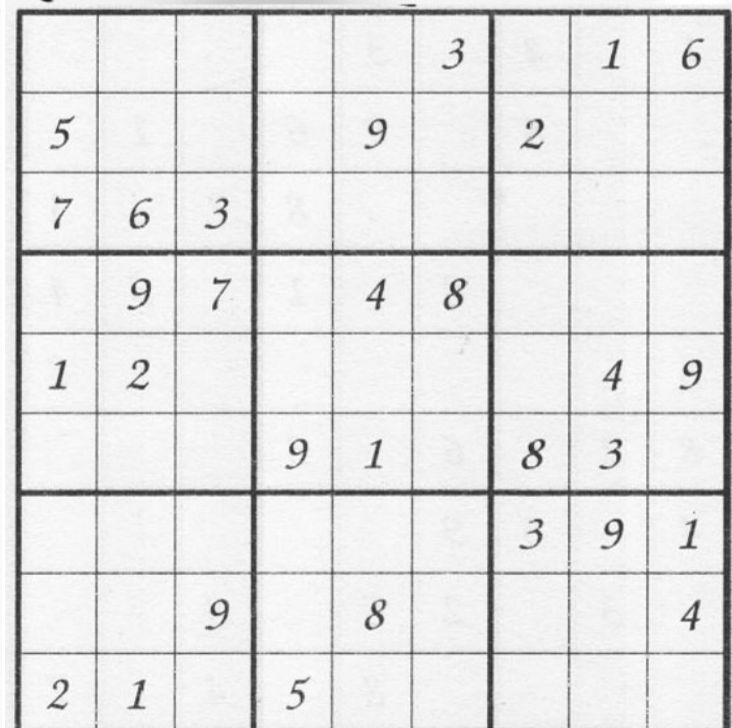
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## Sudoku



## SOLUTION

8	9	L	6	E	S	T	I	Z
P	Z	S	L	8	I	6	E	9
I	6	E	T	9	Z	S	L	8
L	E	8	Z	I	6	9	S	T
6	T	9	S	L	E	8	Z	I
Z	S	I	8	T	9	L	6	E
S	8	6	I	Z	T	E	9	L
E	L	Z	9	6	8	I	T	S
9	I	T	E	S	L	Z	8	6

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.

## Finance

# Central Bank's "Business Perception Survey" reveals Commerce is optimistic

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba's Central Bank has recently published a bulletin in which they indicate that the perception of the business community on Aruba is very positive with respect to our economy. This conclusion of the Bank is based on the results obtained from a survey conducted among local businesses of different sizes and types across the island. The general consensus is that the commercial sector continues to have confidence in our economy today and into the future.

Central Bank's Survey, dubbed, Business Perception Survey (BPS) for the 3rd quarter of 2011, indicates that commerce has a positive impression regarding the actual economic conditions and in the future of Aruba. Our

companies have affirmed that the current economic conditions are much better than the corresponding quarter of 2010.

Despite the loss of 0.3 percentage points of 103.8 in comparison to the previous quarter, the index on the current economic conditions still is at a recognizable optimistic level today. It appears that our companies have much more confidence regarding the economic atmosphere today, compared to the year 2009 and 2010.

The sectors that have demonstrated this kind of optimism are, among others: construction, sales, transportation and financial institutions. The increase is between 10 and 14% compared to the same period in

2010. The survey also revealed that 48.6% of the surveyed companies reported that there was absolutely no change in their labor environment.

27% of the businesses reported that they experienced a drop, while 24.3% registered an increase. Business expansion was primarily in the sales area and in the area of financial intermediation. 57.4% of businesses anticipate continual economic development for the next 6 months, while 29.7% believe that the economy will improve.

Central Bank's survey reveals that 43.2% of our companies that participated in the survey, indicated making profit in the last 2011 period. Many companies, 18.9% reported that they experienced an increase of 10% during the past quarter compared to the same period in 2010.

Reportedly, the government is working diligently on their economic management, "The Green Gateway," with the objective of diversifying the Aruban economy and to prepare for the coming years ahead.

## EU approves Google's \$12.5-bn Motorola takeover

BRUSSELS (AFP) - European Union competition regulators approved on Monday the \$12.5-billion takeover of Motorola Mobility by Google, judging the move unlikely to impact on the market for smartphone operating systems.

"We have approved the acquisition of Motorola Mobility by Google because, upon careful examination, this transaction does not itself raise competition issues," said Joaquin Almunia, the EU's anti-trust commissioner.

An investigation centred on whether Google might make it harder for big-selling handset manufacturers such as Samsung or HTC to use the operating system Google developed, Android.

"It is unlikely that Google would restrict the use of Android solely to Motorola, a minor player in the European Economic Area (EEA)," the Commission concluded.

The Commission said that Google "already had many ways in which to incentivise customers to take up its services and that the acquisition of Motorola would not materially change this."

## Greek austerity vote wins praise amid flames

BRUSSELS (AFP) - Greece took a key first step towards averting bankruptcy and securing a second bailout yesterday after lawmakers approved radical budget cuts despite street battles in pre-election Athens.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said the successful parliamentary vote was "a very important step" towards re-floating the Greek economy but stressed there "cannot be any changes" to conditions imposed by eurozone partners.

With Athens bearing the scars of some of the most violent protests seen in years, Merkel's Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble added that measures including a 22-percent cut to the Greek minimum wage "are not about torturing anyone."

Other tough conditions imposed on Greece in exchange for the bailout range from completing a restructuring of the country's existing debts to delivering on a promised programme of privatisations.

The precise terms for inva-

sive European Union "monitoring" of Greece's revenues and expenditure over the coming years still have to be hammered out.

Eurozone finance ministers, who are to reconvene in Brussels on Wednesday night, will want written guarantees from Greek party leaders that the latest austerity measures will be implemented -- even after elections.

These commitments "must be given by Wednesday," government spokesman Pantelis Kapsis said after announcing a long-anticipated April general election.

There also remain queries of the provenance of 625 million euros in spending cuts, with an EU source suggesting Greece's proportionately high defence spending would be a likely target.

EU economic affairs commissioner Olli Rehn hailed "a crucial step forward towards the adoption of the second programme," referring to a 130-billion-euro (\$171 billion)

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## L'Oreal posts 8.9% profit rise in 2011, heiress leaves board

PARIS (AFP) - L'Oreal, the world's biggest cosmetics company, said yesterday that its net profit jumped by 8.9 percent last year, and that 2012 would be a key year as emerging markets are set to top sales for the first time.

Liliane Bettencourt, the 88-year-old heiress to the beauty giant's fortune who was placed under guardianship last year after a court ruled she was no longer mentally fit to manage her fortune, stepped down from the board of directors.

L'Oreal said sales rose by 4.3 percent to 20.34 billion (\$26.92 billion), while net profit hit 2.44 billion euros.

"In a cosmetics market

whose global trend was favourable, L'Oreal achieved sustained sales growth and confirmed its position as the world leader in beauty," chief executive Jean-Paul Agon said in a statement.

"We are well-equipped to succeed in our strategy of universalising beauty and to achieve another year of sales and profit growth in 2012," said Agon, with emerging markets "set to become the group's number one geographic zone."

In 2011, western Europe still came in top with 38.4 percent of cosmetics sales, but was followed closely by what L'Oreal calls "new markets" at 38.2 percent. North America accounted for the remaining 23.4 percent.

In the fourth quarter of 2011, the group's cosmetics sales increased 4.5 percent from same period a year earlier to 4.7 billion euros as the group pursued "its conquest of new markets, with Asia and Latin America leading the way," the statement said.

L'Oreal's board decided to propose to shareholders a dividend of 2.00 euros per share, an increase of 11 percent from 2010.

## SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

A	S	A	P	M	U	T	E	R	P	H	I	L
B	A	N	A	A	S	A	M	A	T	I	R	E
A	L	A	R	S	E	T	O	N	A	N	A	T
B	A	C	K	S	T	R	E	T	C	H	D	N
A	D	E	S	T	E	R	E	H	A	B	S	
	A	R	A		O	N	E	I	D	A		
O	L	A	F	E	W	E	S	S	A	G	E	S
L	I	F	E	D	A	V	I	S	T	H	A	T
P	A	T	T	I	Y	E	A	H	S	T	L	O
E	R	E	C	T	S		M	U	D			
	R	H	O	N	D	A		D	A	M	O	N
C	O	M	R	E	A	R	A	D	M	I	R	A
A	L	A	S	E	V	A	D	E	R	A	V	I
S	E	T	H	R	I	C	E	R	E	T	A	T
S	O	H	O	S	T	E	N	S		D	E	L

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of:	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
02/13/2012				
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
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Britain	GBP	2.75	2.80	2.86
Switzerland	CHF	195.11	195.83	196.63
Netherlands	EUR	233.93	236.06	238.43
Sweden	SEK	25.81	26.53	27.33
Denmark	DKK	30.80	31.52	32.32
Norway	NOK	30.22	30.94	31.74
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## Adele triumphs at Grammys, clouded by Houston death



**Adele showing off her awards**

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - British soul diva Adele made a triumphant return to the stage at the Grammys Sunday, winning a clean sweep of six awards and a standing ovation, in a show clouded by the death of Whitney Houston.

The 23-year-old Londoner, who has been out of action since October to undergo throat surgery, wowed a star-studded audience with a storming rendition of her worldwide hit "Rolling in the Deep."

The tune won best song Grammy, to add to Adele's haul of awards for best record,

best album for her breakthrough "21," best short video, best pop album and best pop artist -- wins in all six categories in which she was nominated.

"This record is inspired by something that is really normal... just a rubbish relationship," said Adele, adding: "It's been the most life-changing year."

"Oh, I got a bit of snot!" she said in her trademark cockney accent, wiping her nose and fighting back tears at the climax of the three-and-a-half hour show, which ended with a Beatles medley led by Paul

McCartney.

The 69-year-old McCartney also performed a new song, "My Valentine," that was written for his new wife, Nancy Shevell, and that he sang on their wedding day.

The other hotly-anticipated comeback of the night was by 1960s California surfer band the Beach Boys, who played together live on stage for the first time in over two decades.

A three-song tribute started with a close-harmony version of "Surfer Girl" by Maroon 5, and then the falsetto strains of "Wouldn't It Be Nice" by Foster the People, against a backdrop of multicolor surf boards.

After a standing ovation, the Beach Boys themselves, all now in their 60s, then took to the stage to play "Good Vibrations," with famously glum-looking Brian Wilson almost smiling as he hit the high notes with his old bandmates.

Another blast from the past came in the form of country legend Glen Campbell, currently on a farewell tour after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's, who had the audience singing along with his classic "Rhinestone Cowboy."

After Adele -- who equaled Beyonce's record of six Grammys for a female artist -- the Foo Fighters were the next biggest winners, taking five Grammys including best rock song for "Walk" and best rock album for "Wasting Light."

Kanye West, who started the evening with the most nominations -- seven, one ahead of Adele -- went home with four including best rap song for "All of the Lights" and best rap album for "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy."

But while Adele was the big winner, the show was punctuated with tributes to Houston, the 1980s and 1990s superstar who died on Saturday at age 48 at the Beverly Hilton hotel.

The Grammy show began with a prayer for Houston from host LL Cool J.

"We've had a death in our family," he said. "The only thing that feels right is to begin with a prayer for a woman who we loved, for our fallen sister."

The audience then watched a clip of Houston singing one of her greatest hits, "I Will Always Love You," and gave her



**Jennifer Hudson, performing**

a standing ovation.

Later in the show, singer Jennifer Hudson -- who was presented with a Grammy by Houston in 2009 -- gripped the audience in silence with a classy rendition of "I Will Always Love You," the smash hit from Houston's film "The Bodyguard."

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## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments



Rosie and Aaron love their Burger too



The Farmer Burger with the Best Onion Rings

Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to

be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner or Manager Marc Anthony when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit

## SPORTS

## Football: Mancini treated me 'like a dog' - Tevez

LONDON (AFP) - Carlos Tevez headed back to England accusing Manchester City manager Roberto Mancini of treating him "like a dog" in the incident that led to his exile from the Premier League leaders.

The Argentina striker said Monday that an angry Mancini swore at him during the Champions League defeat at Bayern Munich in September, where the forward's refusal to warm-up incensed his Italian boss.

Tevez hasn't played for City since that September 27 match

in Germany but is due to return to Eastlands today in a bid to revive a career that has effectively been suspended for more than three months.

Mancini has indicated his willingness to make peace with Tevez if the player apologises to him.

But Tevez was more interested in giving his version of events about the flare-up in Munich than saying sorry to his manager during a Fox Sports interview broadcast in translation on Britain's Sky Sports News on Monday.

"I was kind of in a bad mood and when he brings on (Nigel) de Jong and takes off (Edin) Dzeko and we're losing 2-0 I thought it was a defensive substitution so I decided to sit back on the bench," Tevez said.

"I had already warmed up for 10 minutes and he has this attitude that he wants to lose 2-0 instead of 4-0. So I sat down and at the same time Dzeko comes off and is really angry and has a go at Mancini. He then sees the tunnel is closed so he has to sit down next to him and they start to have an argument.

"Dzeko was speaking Bosnian and Mancini would swear at him in Italian so it was a real mess.

"So I go and sit down and he doesn't see me because he's having this discussion. But then he turns around and sees me and you can imagine what happens. He's in the middle of an argument so then he tells me to keep on warming up and treats me like a dog.

"So when he spoke to me in that tone of voice, and I said 'No, I'm not going out'. So I was willing to play, but the coach was in such a foul mood because he had that argument with Dzeko.

"He started on me as well, started swearing at me, that was him, because I was very calm...Mancini said some horrible things to me."

Prior to last month's transfer window there was speculation Tevez, who returned to Argentina after his bust-up with Mancini, would be sold by City.

However, despite interest from Inter Milan, AC Milan and Paris St Germain, no deal was done and he remained on the books at Eastlands.

Tevez proved a hit with City's fans soon after joining the club from local rivals Manchester United in 2009 but they turned on their one-time favourite after his spat with Mancini.

But Tevez said their reaction was understandable as the supporters did not know the full story.

Meanwhile Tevez's representative, Kia Joorabchian, when asked on Sky if the player will apologise to Mancini, said: "This is between Mancini and Carlos."

Mancini, speaking after City's 1-0 win away to Aston Villa on Sunday, said of Tevez: "Would I like him to apologise? This is normal I think. And after, Carlos can train and Carlos can play if his condition is good."

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## Barcelona boss says winning league 'very difficult'

MADRID (AFP) - Barcelona sporting director Andoni Zubizarreta says retaining the Spanish league title this season will be "very difficult" after Real Madrid opened a 10-point lead over the Catalan side over the weekend.

Real extended its gap over second-place Barcelona with a 4-2 win over Levante on Sunday which came a day after the Catalan side slumped to a 3-2 defeat to Osasuna.

"The league is very difficult now. Real Madrid is very strong," Zubizarreta told reporters as the squad headed to the airport to fly to Germany for their first-leg clash against Bayer Leverkusen in the Champions League Round of 16 match on Tuesday.

"We will keep up the pressure so that in case something happens to Real Madrid, we will be ready to take advantage

of it. The number of points which Real has racked up is extraordinary."

Real has 58 points from 22 matches and have only dropped eight points so far this season, with defeats away to Levante and at home to Barcelona and one draw at Racing Santander.

The club's coach Jose Mourinho attempted to play down title talk after his side's win against Levante.

"There are many points still at stake and many games yet to be played," said Mourinho, who has won league titles in England, Italy and his native Portugal.

"There are 39 points left, which translate into 13 victories, and that's still a lot. Ten points are just that, but they do give you some room for error. Losing a game won't push us into a decisive situation," he added.

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## Basketball: US women set to seek fifth Olympic gold in a row

COLORADO SPRINGS (AFP) - A pool of 21 players, nine of them Olympic gold medalists and most from the Women's NBA, were named by USA Basketball on Monday as finalists for spots on the 2012 London Olympic roster.

The Americans will seek their fifth gold medal in a row next August, having beaten Australia in the past three Olympic finals as part of a 33-game win streak that dates back to a loss in the 1992 Barcelona semi-finals.

Seattle's Sue Bird, Phoenix's Diana Taurasi and Indiana's Tamika Catchings hope to play for a third consecutive Olympic gold medal squad. All three played on the 2010 world championship squad that earned the US women an Olympic berth.

Other past US Olympic champions up for a 2012 spot include Swin Cash from 2004 in Athens and Seimone Augustus, Sylvia Fowles, Kara Lawson, Candace Parker and Cappie Pondexter from 2008 in Beijing.

Others seeking a US roster spot for London include Jayne Appel, Rebekkah Brunson, Tina Charles, Candice Dupree, Lindsey Harding, Asjha Jones, Angel McCoughtry, Renee Montgomery, Maya Moore, Lindsay Whalen, Sophia Young and collegian Brittney Riner.


"Now that we're down to 21 finalists, you look around and you see a group of players that have tremendous experience, players that have won gold medals, won world championships," said US Olympic women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma.

"You've got a group of players that have experienced everything there is to experience and as a coach I couldn't be happier with this group."


Other Olympic qualifiers include hosts Great Britain, reigning European champions Russia, Asian champions China, Oceania champions Australia, African champions Angola and Americas champions Brazil.

Five other countries will join them in London after a qualifying tournament on June 25-July 1 in Turkey that includes New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, Mali, Mozambique, Canada, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Turkey, Croatia, Czech Republic and France.

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## NBA: Stoudemire greets Lin-sanity in Knicks return



NEW YORK (AFP) - Amare Stoudemire returned to the New York Knicks on Monday after missing the past week following the death of his brother, getting his first taste of NBA "Lin-sanity" in a team workout.

In the absence of Stoudemire and injured playmaker Carmelo Anthony, the Knicks have won five games in a row behind the stunning emergence of guard Jeremy

Lin, the NBA's first US-born player of Taiwanese and Chinese ancestry.

Knicks coach Mike D'Antoni said Stoudemire will start alongside Lin for the first time on Tuesday when the Knicks (13-15) play at Toronto after missing four games following the death of older brother Hazell in a car crash.

"We should go to another level, no doubt about it," D'Antoni said.

Lin has averaged 26.8 points, 8.0 assists and 4.2 rebounds in the past five games. Lin's drives to the basket, pinpoint passes and electrifying effort have sparked the Knicks in the past week.

But the question hanging over the club is how Lin would function alongside Stoudemire and Anthony, who was sidelined by a groin strain last Monday but is likely to return this week.

"It's the same thing for me, just try and get on the floor and help my team win," said Lin, who sat out Monday's practice session to rest his body.

"When we get out there, hopefully we will hit the ground running."

Regardless of what happens the remainder of the season, Lin has had an impact on a Knicks team that was struggling to find itself.

"He has really changed the mind-set and mentality of this team," Knicks big man Tyson Chandler said. "We were really struggling and fighting the offense."

"He's making the right decisions and because of that, the offense is flowing and it's giving a lot of guys confidence."

Lin, a Harvard graduate undrafted by NBA clubs, was consigned to the end of the Knicks' bench after New York took a chance on the guard fol-

lowing his being cut by the Golden State Warriors and Houston Rockets before the season began.

Now Lin has the most points by any player in his first four starts in more than 30 years and his exploits have prompted such stellar newspaper headlines as "May The Best Man Lin" and "The Mighty Lin".

A "Lin-sanity" banner was even printed atop the front page of Monday's Wall Street Journal.

The NBA's top-selling replica jersey in the past 10 days has been that of Lin and he has attracted 130,000 Twitter followers in the past few days as well as boosted online viewings of Knicks games by more than 220 percent.

"This is my dream being lived out and I'm so thankful for that," Lin said.

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## Baseball: Red Sox reach Ortiz deal to avoid arbitration



BOSTON (AFP) - Dominican slugger David Ortiz agreed terms with the Boston Red Sox on a one-year Major League Baseball deal worth \$14.575 million to avoid arbitration, according to the club's website.

The deal to keep "Big Papi" on the American League club for a 10th season was reached only hours before an arbitration hearing was set to begin in Florida.

Each side compromised on a figure that was the midpoint between what Ortiz had sought and the team's final offer.

The 2012 salary is \$2,075 million more than seven-time Major League Baseball All-Star Ortiz made last season, when he batted .309 with 29 home runs and batted in 96 runs.

"It was just one of those things that when we all had everyone in the room together it just made sense that we would get to the midpoint and get it done," Red Sox general manager Ben Cherington told the Boston Globe.

The Red Sox missed last season's playoffs on the final day of the 2011 season after a 7-20 September slump to conclude the campaign.

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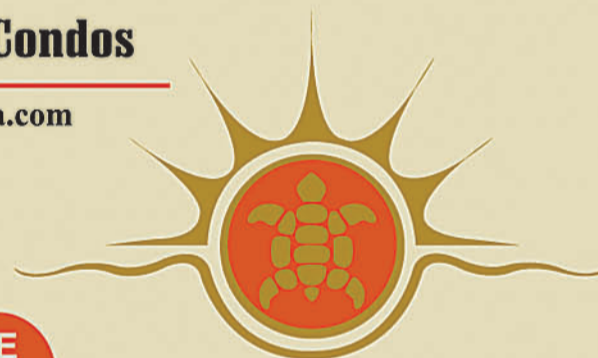
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## A's reach terms with Cuban star on four-year deal

OAKLAND (AFP) - Cuban slugger Yoenis Cespedes has agreed to a four-year deal worth \$36 million with the Oakland A's, the largest US deal ever for a Cuban, Major League Baseball's website reported on Monday.

Cespedes, a 26-year-old outfielder who spent eight seasons with Granma of the Cuban league before defecting from his Caribbean Communist homeland last year, was an all-tournament player for Cuba in the 2009 World Baseball Classic.

The deal remains incom-

plete pending a physical exam expected to take place later this week.

Oakland had lost out to other clubs for recent Cuban free agents Aroldis Chapman and Alexei Ramirez but this time outbid several clubs, including the Miami Marlins, who reportedly offered a six-year deal for similar money.

Cespedes smashed 33 home runs, batted .333 and drove in 99 runs over 90 games in the 2010-2011 season and hit .458 in six games for Cuba in the 2009 Classic against Major League Baseball talent.

Cespedes was granted temporary residence in the Dominican Republic last week and visited Miami last week after being granted a travel visa.

A typical path for Cubans to the major leagues is to avoid coming to the United States, where his rights would be allocated by draft rather than in free agent bidding.

Major League Baseball declared Cespedes a free agent last month and he was recently granted clearance by the US Treasury Department to sign a deal.



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